



Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

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To: The Honorable Rick Jones
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From: KC Steckelberg
Director of Public Affairs, PAAM

Date: December 9, 2014

Re: CSG package (SB 1139, 1141, HB 5928-31)

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) joined the legislature in providing information to the Council of State Governments (CSG) in examining Michigan's criminal justice system. CSG correctly identified that Michigan is one of the lowest states sentencing felons to prison at 14%. Likewise, CSG identified a need for our system to intervene more comprehensively with both probationers and parolees.

The research and policy options provided by CSG have prompted significant policy discussions throughout the criminal justice field over the past few months. Many of the CSG recommendations raised concerns to prosecutors and others around the State. PAAM has engaged in these policy discussions, and has negotiated in the House to balance out CSG policy options to protect victims and public safety. PAAM continues to participate in discussions and will continue to work with the House and Senate as it looks to craft policy that also protects our citizens and victims.